



PATENT
Customer No. 22,852
Attorney Docket No. 05725.0532-00

112

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), Applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached PTO Form 1449. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action after the filing of a Request for Continued Examination in the above-referenced application.

Copies of the listed documents are attached. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the listed documents and indicate that they were considered by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

English-language abstracts of the non-English documents are enclosed. With respect to Japanese Unexamined Patent Application, First Publication No.

Hei 8-511272, U.S. Patent No. 5,720,964 is believed to be an English-language family member thereof. Also, with respect to Japanese Unexamined Patent Application, First Publication No. Hei 9-110630, U.S. Patent No. 6,165,446 is believed to be an English-language family member thereof.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claim in the application and Applicants determine that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicants reserve the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

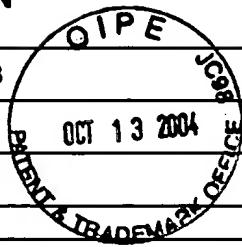
FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: October 13, 2004

By: Adriana L. Burgy
Adriana L. Burgy
Reg. No. 48,564

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION

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|------------------|-------------------------------------|------------|------------|
| Atty. Docket No. | 05725.0532-00 | Appln. No. | 09/485,903 |
| Applicant | Christine DUPUIS et al. | | |
| Filing Date | March 31, 2000 (35 U.S.C. 371 date) | Group: | 1617 |



U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initial* | | Document Number | Issue Date | Name | Class | Sub Class | Filing Date If Appropriate |
|-------------------|--|-----------------|------------|---------------|-------|-----------|----------------------------|
| 1 | | 5,720,964 | 2/24/1998 | Murray | | | |
| 2 | | 6,165,446 | 12/26/2000 | Samain et al. | | | |
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| | | Document Number | Publication Date | Country | Class | Sub Class | Translation Yes or No |
|--|---|-----------------|------------------|---------|-------|-----------|-----------------------|
| | 3 | Hei 8-511272 | 11/26/1996 | Japan | | | Abstract |
| | 4 | Hei 9-110630 | 4/28/1997 | Japan | | | Abstract |
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OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

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|---|---|
| 5 | English-language DERWENT abstract of JP 8-511272. |
| 6 | English-language DERWENT abstract of JP 9-110630. |
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| Examiner | Date Considered |
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*Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.